

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated hereafter.

1. (Currently amended) A composition for coating or forming a medical device or coating a medicament, the composition comprising:
at least one polymer; and
a colloid comprising a salt or oxide of one or more oligodynamic metals;
wherein the salt or oxide of one or more oligodynamic metals inhibits microbial adherence of one or more organisms to the composition;
wherein the composition is designed for at least one of the following uses: formation of the medical device, a coating on the medical device, and a coating on the medicament.
2. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the salt or oxide of one or more oligodynamic metals creates a zone of inhibition to the one or more pathogens when placed on a culture of the one or more pathogens.
3. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the salt or oxide of one or more oligodynamic metals does not create a zone of inhibition to the one or more pathogens when placed on a culture of the one or more pathogens.
4. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the salt or oxide of one or more oligodynamic metals is a silver salt.
5. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the silver salt is selected from silver chloride, silver iodide, silver citrate, silver lactate, silver acetate, silver propionate, silver salicylate, silver bromide, silver ascorbate, silver laurel sulfate, silver phosphate, silver sulfate, silver oxide, silver benzoate, silver carbonate, silver sulfadiazine, and silver gluconate.
6. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the colloid comprises the salt of more than one oligodynamic metal.

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7. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the one or more oligodynamic metal salts comprise salts having different solubilities in water.
8. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the at least one polymer is selected from polyurethanes, polyvinylpyrrolidones, polyvinyl alcohols, polyethylene glycols, polypropylene glycols, polyoxyethylenes, polyacrylic acid, polyacrylamide, carboxymethyl cellulose, dextrans, polysaccharides, starches, guar, xantham and other gums, collagen, gelatins, biological polymers, polytetrafluoroethylene, polyvinyl chloride, polyvinylacetate, poly(ethylene terephthalate), silicone, polyesters, polyamides, polyureas, styrene-block copolymers, polymethyl methacrylate, polyacrylates, acrylic-butadiene-styrene copolymers, polyethylene, polystyrene, polypropylene, natural and synthetic rubbers, acrylonitrile rubber, cellulose, and mixtures, derivatives, and copolymers thereof.
9. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the silver salt is silver chloride and the composition contains silver chloride present in an amount between about four and about six percent based on the total weight of solids in the composition.
10. (Previously presented) An article comprising the composition of Claim 1.
11. (Previously presented) The article of Claim 10, wherein the article comprises a substrate material and a coating on at least part of one or more surfaces of the substrate material and the coating comprises the composition.
12. (Previously presented) The article of Claim 11 wherein the coating covers part of at least one surface of the substrate and does not cover another part of the surface.
13. (Previously presented) The article of Claim 12 wherein the part of the surface that is not covered is sufficiently transparent to allow visual inspection of the interior of the article.

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14. (Previously presented) The article of Claim 11 wherein the coating comprises multiple coating layers.

15. (Previously presented) The article of Claim 10 wherein the article comprises a medical device.

16. (Previously presented) The article of Claim 10 wherein the one or more salt or oxides of oligodynamic metals are present in a concentration of between about 10 and about 15 micrograms per square centimeter of surface area of the articles.

17. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of ~~an article~~ a medical device comprising the steps of:

- (1) forming a solution, dispersion, or combination thereof comprising the composition of Claim 1; and
- (2) drying the solution to create a solid polymeric article.

18. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of ~~an article~~ a medical device comprising the steps of:

- (1) forming the composition of Claim 1;
- (2) drying the composition; and
- (3) processing the composition with the application of heat to form the article.

19. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of ~~an article~~ a medical device comprising the steps of:

- (1) forming the composition of Claim 1;
- (2) compounding the composition formed in (1) with one or more polymers; and
- (3) processing the composition formed in (2) with the application of heat to form the article.

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20. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of an article comprising dipping a form in the composition of Claim 1, wherein the article is chosen from at least one of a medical device and a medicament.

21. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of an article comprising casting the composition of Claim 1 into a preselected shape, wherein the article is chosen from at least one of a medical device and a medicament.

22. (Currently amended) A method for delivery of one or more oligodynamic metals, salts of oligodynamic metals, oxides of oligodynamic metals, or combinations thereof to a desired location comprising:

providing the composition of Claim 1, and
implanting, administering, inserting, or otherwise placing the composition under
conditions effective to deliver oligodynamic metals, salts of oligodynamic metals, oxides of
oligodynamic metals, or combinations thereof, to the desired location in an organism.

23. (Previously presented) A method of treatment of a cell, tissue, or organism, comprising implanting, administering, inserting, or otherwise placing the composition of Claim 1 under conditions effective to deliver one or more oligodynamic metals, salts of oligodynamic metals, oxides of oligodynamic metals, or combinations thereof to the cell, tissue, organism, or a portion of the cell, tissue, or organism.

24. (Currently amended) The use of the composition of Claim 1 in the preparation of A
method of preparing an article or medicament for delivery of one or more oligodynamic metals, salts of oligodynamic metals, oxides of oligodynamic metals, or combinations thereof to the cell, tissue, organism, or a portion of the cell, tissue, or organism, the method comprising:

providing the composition of claim 1; and
coating the article or the medicament with said composition.

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25. (Newly added) A method of preparing a medical device for delivery of one or more oligodynamic metals, salts of oligodynamic metals, oxides of oligodynamic metals, or combinations thereof to a cell, tissue, organism, or a portion of the cell, tissue, or organism, the method comprising:

providing a composition comprising
at least one polymer; and
a colloid comprising a salt or oxide of one or more oligodynamic metals;
wherein the salt or oxide of one or more oligodynamic metals inhibits microbial adherence of one or more organisms to the composition; and
constructing at least a portion of the medical device from the composition.

26. (Newly added) The method of claim 25, wherein the composition consists of:
at least one polymer; and
a colloid comprising a salt or oxide of one or more oligodynamic metals.

27. (Newly added) The method of claim 25, wherein the composition comprises a plurality of colloids comprising a salt or oxide of one or more oligodynamic metals;
wherein at least one salt of the oligodynamic metal has a high water solubility and at least one salt of the oligodynamic metal has a low water solubility.

28. (Newly added) The method of claim 27, wherein about 5 -100% of the oligodynamic metals are delivered within a first 24-hour period after contact with the cell, tissue, organism, or the portion of the cell, tissue, or organism.

29. (Newly added) The method of claim 27, wherein about 38% of the oligodynamic metals are delivered within a first 24-hour period after contact with the cell, tissue, organism, or the portion of the cell, tissue, or organism, and about 80% of remaining oligodynamic metals are delivered within 21 days after contact with the cell, tissue, organism, or the portion of the cell, tissue, or organism.

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30. (Newly added) The method of claim 25, wherein constructing at least a portion of the medical device from the composition comprises at least one of the following: molding, casting, and extrusion.

31. (Newly added) A method of delivering an antimicrobial composition to a cell, tissue, organism, or a portion of the cell, tissue, or organism, the method comprising:
providing a composition comprising
at least one polymer; and
a colloid comprising a salt or oxide of one or more oligodynamic metals;
wherein the salt or oxide of one or more oligodynamic metals inhibits microbial adherence of one or more organisms to the composition;
forming a medical device from the composition; and
contacting the medical device with the cell, tissue, organism, or the portion of the cell, tissue, or organism.

32. (Newly added) The method of claim 31, wherein the composition comprises a plurality of colloids comprising a salt or oxide of one or more oligodynamic metals;
wherein at least one salt of the oligodynamic metal has a high water solubility and at least one salt of the oligodynamic metal has a low water solubility.

33. (Newly added) The method of claim 31, wherein forming the medical device from the composition comprises at least one of the following: molding, casting, and extrusion.

34. (Newly added) The article of claim 10, wherein the article is chosen from at least one of the following: catheters, cannulae, stents, guide wires, implant devices, contact lenses, IUDs, peristaltic pump chambers, endotracheal tubes, gastroenteric feeding tubes, arteriovenous shunts, condoms, oxygenator and kidney membranes, and pacemaker leads.

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35. (Newly added) The method of claim 17, further comprising:
subjecting the composition to at least one of the following: molding, casting, and extrusion.
36. (Newly added) The method of claim 18, wherein processing comprises at least one of the following: molding, casting, and extrusion.
37. (Newly added) The method of claim 19, wherein processing comprises at least one of the following: molding, casting, and extrusion.